

South Mountain Commerce Center

Art in Private Development Fact Sheet



City of Tempe
Cultural Services
3340 South Rural Road
Tempe, AZ 85282
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www.tempe.gov/arts



Photo: Craig Smith

Artwork

Spire & Social Oasis

Development

South Mountain Commerce Center

Address

2420 W. Baseline Road

Artist

Joe Tyler

Completion

2006

Material

Stainless steel: a natural raw steel left to the elements to achieve a variegated rusted appearance.

Description: This piece is a social oasis - a welded steel obelisk that gives the corporate center a sense of place. A shaded seating area for employees to get fresh air, socialize, eat lunch or wait for a ride is located at the rear of the building. A spire is located in the front of the building.

Funding: This project was funded by the individual developer as a requirement of Tempe's Art in Private Development Ordinance.

Artist biography: Joe Tyler received his bachelor's degree in Horticulture from Arizona State University. He earned his Master's of Environmental Horticulture at ASU in 1974. Tyler's works can be seen all over Arizona as well as in Germany, Japan, California, New Mexico, Texas and Nevada. Tyler has received many awards and has held several professional positions in the field of horticulture. He has created public art for the cities of Tempe, Scottsdale, Chandler, Tucson and Yuma and art for major business corporations.

Artist statement: "On this project I worked closely with the owner and its architects to capture their visions of an entry statement at the front of the corporate center and a social oasis at the rear of the building."